



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

SAU 11

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Empowering all Learners

March 13, 2020

Dear Dover School District Families,

I recognize that our awareness and anxiety continue to increase as COVID-19 information is released by the media resources and others, I also recognize the situation and circumstances are ever changing. To date, the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) continues to track and monitor all known cases. At this time, there are no known cases of COVID-19 that are community spread, therefore, the risk level for COVID-19 in New Hampshire currently remains low. Schools will continue to remain open until further directive is given.

In an effort to continue to prepare, the Dover School District has organized a COVID-19 Response Team. The purpose of this team is to monitor the evolving pandemic and identify and implement identified action items to protect the health and safety of students, faculty, and staff. The team consists of Superintendent William Harbron, District Administrators, Paula Glynn, Christine Boston, Christy Prosser, School Administrators Peter Driscoll, Kim Lyndes, Patrick Boodey, Beth Dunton, Patty Driscoll, Fire Chief Paul Haas, and representatives from C&W Maintenance Services, First Student Transportation Services, and Fresh Picks Food Services.

The Response Team is meeting regularly to plan for contingencies in this unique situation. The District is currently working on communication plans, matrices for event and field trip decisions, other learning alternatives, and continuation of food service for students on free and reduced lunches.

The following are currently being implemented:

- At all times, when the District has questions pertaining to employees or students, the District consults with and takes direction from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).
- C&W Maintenance has implemented new cleaning protocols for sanitizing desktops, surfaces, doors, handrails and other exposed areas where there is daily contact.
- First Student has implemented new cleaning protocols for busses.
- Fresh Picks is implementing new protocols and procedures for food services.
- New Hampshire Department of Education has issued guidelines for school events and school travel. The guidelines are being reviewed and will be applied to school events and trips. The implementation has started, and all current and future events are being evaluated based on the guidelines.

It is important that all families are vigilant about following these guidelines:

- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. After using a tissue, throw it in the trash and wash your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs that can cause respiratory illnesses like flu.
- If your child gets sick with flu-like illness, **he or she should stay home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone** except to get medical care or for other necessities. The fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.
- While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.

The District has resources for your use located on the District's Website: www.dover.k12.nh.us

Events surrounding COVID-19 are constantly changing. The District is committed to keeping you updated as we learn more and strive to respond in a timely and responsible manner.

It is important to recognize the circumstances surrounding COVID-19 are constantly changing. The District will continue to monitor and adjust accordingly. It is important that we all maintain a sense of calm as we logically continue to find the best practices to follow.

Respectfully,



William R. Harbron, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools